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| <p align="center"><b>Community Connections General Application Form</b></p> <p align="center">(Please complete this portion of application only once per organization if submitting for multiple sites)</p>   |  |                   |
| <b>General Application Form</b>   |  |                   |
| <b>Applicant Organization Name:</b><br>The Arc of the Capital Area, Inc.  |  |                   |
| <b>Alias/DBA:</b><br>The Arc  |  |                   |
| <b>Program Name for Google Fiber Connection:</b><br>The Arc of the Arts Technology Education Project  |  |                   |
| <b>Organization Mission and Purpose:</b><br>The mission of The Arc is to promote independence and choice by providing individualized services to children and adults with developmental disabilities (i.e., autism, spina bifida, seizure disorder, cerebral palsy, learning disabilities, and Down syndrome), and to their parents/caregivers. One in six children in the U. S. has a developmental disability. It is estimated that there are 90,000 individuals in Central Texas with a developmental disability. The Arc is the sole-source provider of many of the safety net services upon which these individuals and families rely. |  |                   |
| <b>Organization Website:</b><br><a href="http://www.arcofthecapitalarea.org/">http://www.arcofthecapitalarea.org/</a>   |  |                   |
| <b>Contact Name:</b><br>Susan Eason, Executive Director   |  |                   |
| <b>City:</b> Austin   | <b>State:</b> Texas                          | <b>Zip:</b> 78705 |
| <b>Phone:</b> 512-476-7044 ext. 208   | <b>Email:</b> season@arcofthecapitalarea.org |                   |
| <b>Location(s) applying for site selection (including physical address of location) and how long your organization plans on being at each location:</b><br>This fall, after 50 years in the same location, we will be relocating to our new facility located at 4902 Grover, Austin, TX 78756. We anticipate being at this new location indefinitely.   |  |                   |
| <b>Type of Organization:</b> X Non-Profit                      Public Entity  |  |                   |
| <b>Number of years in operation:</b> 65   | <b>Number of employees at location:</b> 34   |                   |

## Community Connections Criteria Form

### Criteria Form

Please include location if applying for more than one location:

### Organization

#### 1. What is your agency's vision? 1000 words maximum

Choosing what clothes to wear, deciding what to eat for breakfast, going to the movies with friends, taking the family dog for a long walk in the park – these are all part of an ordinary life and things most people take for granted. For the extraordinary people living with developmental disabilities, life isn't always so simple. Developmental disabilities is a term used to describe life-long disabilities attributable to mental and physical impairments, which are manifested prior to age 22. A few examples include autism, spina bifida, seizure disorder, cerebral palsy, learning disabilities, and Down syndrome.

One in six children in our community has a developmental disability. It is estimated that there are 90,000 individuals in Central Texas with a developmental disability.

The Arc of the Capital Area (The Arc) envisions:

- A future where all children and adults with disabilities are able to live healthy lives in loving homes with their families, have real friends and social lives and achieve academic success;
- A future where aging parents do not have to fear for the quality of the lives of their sons and daughters with disabilities and can live out the last years of their lives in peace; and
- A future where the promise of equal opportunity, economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and full participation in community life is made real and meaningful for all people with developmental disabilities.

In other words, The Arc envisions a future where all children and adults with developmental disabilities have the same opportunities as citizens without disabilities, to live meaningful and healthy lives.

#### 2. What is your agency's mission and purpose? 1000 words maximum

The history of living with a disability in the United States has largely been one of discrimination, segregation and exclusion - from education, work, housing, and even from routine daily activities. Much has changed since 1949, when a small group of brave parents in Austin banded together to advocate for their children. For more than 60 years The Arc has removed obstacles for people with disabilities and given hope to their families.

The mission of The Arc is to promote independence and choice by providing individualized services to children and adults with developmental disabilities and to their parents/caregivers. For caregivers of people with developmental disabilities, the levels of responsibility are not only greater, but also frequently lifelong.

The Arc believes that all people with developmental disabilities have strengths, abilities and inherent value; are equal before the law; and must be treated with dignity and respect. The Arc represents, supports and acts on behalf of individuals and their families regardless of level of disability or membership in The Arc. The Arc believes in self-determination by empowering people with the supports needed to make informed decisions and choices.

The Arc also works toward and believes in the community imperative: that all people have the fundamental moral, civil and constitutional rights to live, learn, work, play and worship in safe and healthy communities of their choosing. The Arc works to ensure the safety and well being of individuals.

While we no longer live in a world where all individuals with developmental disabilities are excluded from public schools and daily community life, there is still much work to be done. The Arc will continue to speak for those who cannot always speak for themselves, who are often our most vulnerable.

**3. Please list your organization's affiliations, community partnerships, certifications, and/or accreditations. 1000 words maximum – currently 180**

- The Arc is an affiliate of The Arc of Texas and The Arc (of the United States), the oldest volunteer driven association in the country.
- As one of four Medicaid CLASS Case Management providers in a 17-county area, The Arc has been instrumental in preventing the institutionalization of hundreds of people with developmental disabilities.
- The Arc is the only organization in Austin providing guardianship, and juvenile justice services for adults and youth with disabilities.
- With strong oversight by the Finance Committee, The Arc has excellent fiscal management.
- The Arc is a founding member of two formal collaborations – Best Single Source and The Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Coalition.
- In 2009, our Arc of the Arts program received the Greenlights for Non-Profit Success Innovation

Award, and recognition from The Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center for participating in their work-study collaboration.

- Our Juvenile Justice Services Program was recognized as an outstanding collaborator with the Juvenile Mental Health Court (COPE).
- The Arc has more than 450 volunteers. In 2012, our volunteers donated nearly 7,000 hours equating to \$140,000 in value as set by Independent Sector.

**4. What is the total number of unduplicated clients served by your organization at this location last fiscal year? 1000 words maximum**

The Arc is requesting Google Fiber at our new organizational location at 4902 Grover, Austin, TX 78756. We anticipate that we will continue to serve (directly and indirectly) more than 2,000 children and adults annually at the new site.

We also anticipate that the Google Fiber will directly service

- 35-40 students with developmental disabilities participating in the Arc of the Arts Technology Education Project
- 300-500 individuals using the Arc of the Arts computer lab
- 300-450 of their parents/caregivers
- 34 employees of The Arc

**5. Briefly provide an overview of your organization and the services it offers. 1000 words maximum**

Since 1949 The Arc has removed obstacles for people with disabilities and given hope to their families. Our target population is children and adults in Travis County with developmental disabilities, and their parents/caregivers. The Arc is the sole-source provider of many of the safety net services upon which these children, adults and families rely.

Our programs include the following:

**Intake & Referral Services:** This is the centralized telephone intake for all services/programs. Callers are prompted to leave a message. An Intake Specialist returns their call within three business days. We conduct a brief screening to determine eligibility for services, which services best meet their needs, and/or referrals callers to other disability organizations/resources.

**Family & Caregiver Support Services:** Includes low or no-cost parent mentoring, special education advocacy, support groups, educational workshops and guardianship services for parents and caregivers of children with Developmental Disabilities.

**Basic Needs & Crisis Assistance:** Provides individuals with developmental disabilities and their families with access to holiday assistance, medical/adaptive equipment and supplies, and crisis assistance to help with housing, utilities, medical payments, transportation and childcare costs. Must be eligible for services under one of The Arc's programs.

**Juvenile Justice Services:** Provides educational advocacy and support to help youth with developmental disabilities (ages 11-17) and special education needs to complete school, stay out of the justice system and become contributing members of the community.

**Guardianship Services:** Helps low-income families establish guardianship of children with developmental disabilities who have recently reached or will soon reach adulthood (age 18).

**Case Management:** Coordinates a range of community integration services and supports to help adults with developmental disabilities, many of whom live alone, to achieve and maintain personal independence.

**Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS):** CLASS offers individuals with disabilities who need attendant care an alternative to institutionalization by helping them access the resources they need to live and work as independently as possible in the community.

**Arc of the Arts Studio & Gallery:** A daily creative arts program that teaches a unique curriculum in music, art, acting, filming skits and movies and digital media. This program helps clients learn social skills, job skills, increase self-esteem and gain a strong sense of self-worth through social opportunities, a store front gallery, art shows and special events.

**6. Describe the community issues your organization is attempting to address. Include a description of the population most at risk of experiencing the issues described. 1000 words maximum**

As previously mentioned, there are approximately 90,000 individuals in Central Texas with a developmental disability, of which approximately 15,000 are children. The fast-growing number of children diagnosed with autism is about to present a tidal wave of an additional 34,800 children and adults with developmental disabilities into our communities.

Families sacrifice to care for their child with a developmental disability and worry constantly about who will provide that care when they are no longer around or when they become ill or aged. For nearly 65 years The Arc has been the organization to which these families have turned for help and support to

manage the extraordinary challenges they have faced raising and caring for a child with disabilities, and for ensuring that their child will never be without that support.

For adults with a developmental disability, The Arc works to ensure that they have every opportunity possible to enjoy the simple pleasures of life that individuals without disabilities may take for granted, i.e.:

- Work in which they can take pride,
- Independent living,
- Relationships and inclusion, and
- Safety.

In other words, The Arc is here to ensure that Austin citizens with developmental disabilities do not just exist, but rather that they experience the quality of life that all our citizens expect and deserve.

Particularly relevant to this appeal for Google Fiber is the issue of digital inclusion for Austin citizens with developmental disabilities. Technology has the potential for profoundly changing the opportunities available to everyone, but particularly to people isolated by disabilities and/or other disadvantages. Unfortunately, Internet use has become just one more part of life from which people with developmental disabilities are fundamentally excluded. The Arc of the Arts Technology Education Program will provide basic and advanced technology education to our clients, and a access to a computer lab for all citizens with developmental disabilities.

*Andrew can't tie his shoes or buckle his belt to do a lot of things independently, but he can do technology.*

*He's a digital native.*

Parent of a son with developmental disabilities, NPR, April 2013

**7. Describe the demographics (e.g. ethnicity, gender, age, and income levels) and geographic characteristics of the community members your organization serves. 1000 words maximum**

Our clients are typically:

- Financially disadvantaged (100% of independent adults, 40% of families),
- Unemployed (88% although with adequate training, many are employable, and
- Do not receive state or federal support (80%).

Language barriers, lack of education, and the challenges of caring for other young children also hamper some of the families who rely on The Arc for help.

Studies consistently show that working age individuals with disabilities are disproportionately unemployed compared to their non-disabled peers; this disparity is exponentially greater when comparing people with significant, developmental disabilities with persons without disabilities. **The statistics are numbing: 88% of working age adults who have a developmental disability are unemployed.** (Alliance for Full Participation, 2011)

Of clients served and reporting:

- 54% are Caucasian,
- 24% Latino/Hispanic,
- 12% African American, and
- 10% other.

Adults with developmental disabilities suffer from poor mental and physical health. They are also often inexperienced at socialization, confined to their homes and depressed. Another challenge often encountered by families struggling to care for a child with developmental disabilities is their child's vulnerability to violence and incarceration. According to the US Department of Juvenile Justice, 70% of youth involved with the juvenile justice system have a learning or developmental disability.

**8. Describe your organization's accessibility (e.g. accessible main entrance, within blocks of a public bus stop, etc.). 1000 words maximum**

The Arc is 100% compliant with ADA rules and regulations, including ramping and accessible restrooms and signage, confidentiality, protection from harassment, and special support in interpreting and/or explaining concept and information. Also, because we serve citizens with disabilities, we go above and beyond ADA requirements to ensure that our clients and their parents/caregivers have access to our services and programs. Our facilities are also near Capital Metro bus lines.

Internet access is not an ADA requirement for citizens with developmental disabilities, but in today's world, not having access to information technology is a disadvantage. Through the Arc of the Arts Technology Education Program, The Arc can remove yet another barrier for citizens with developmental disabilities, and provide them access to a much expanded world.

**9. If selected, how will your organization incorporate Google Fiber into the services it offers? 1000 words maximum**

Google Fiber would replace our current provider and thus will be used for all of our Internet needs, however, we are particularly excited about what Google Fiber will mean for our Arc of the Arts Technology Education Program.

Since 2008, The Arc of the Capital Area has been building an exceptional occupational arts program for citizens with developmental disabilities, providing an artistic identity to a segment of the community previously identified only by their disability. Our students, studying under a structured Professional Artists Track curriculum, have learned the principles of art, created and sold art, and become much more integrated into the community through their art. Arc of the Arts has also provided a place where citizens with and without disabilities stand shoulder to shoulder, communicate and interact. Arc of the Arts has consistently gained momentum, increasing the number of students and community support. It is the success of this program that gave birth to our Technology Education Program to meet the growing need for technology education for citizens with developmental disabilities.

Because of the growing number of children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders, the number of citizens with developmental disabilities will grow dramatically over the next few years. Providing job skills for this increasing population of citizens must be a priority for our community. A good margin of Austin's economy is technology- based, providing exceptional opportunities to individuals with the training and skills to serve that industry. Studies support that when provided technology training, people with autism can be highly successful in technology jobs, as this type of work environment makes fewer demands on employees' social skills.

*High-tech jobs can be a perfect fit for people on the high-functioning end of the autism spectrum,  
who often have an amazing ability to hyper-focus on a task.  
They may really flourish at engineering-type tasks or computer design,  
where their interaction with people is somewhat limited.*

Dr. Patricia Evans, Children's Medical Center, Dallas, NPR, April 2013

It is these successes, need and opportunities driving the creation of The Arc of the Arts Technology Education Project to expand our students' occupational potential, and their world, by providing student-centered basic computer and Internet literacy, and creative technology training, including graphic design, filmmaking, animation, and illustration.



The Arc Technology Education Project will be particularly targeted at the growing number of citizens with autism who have arrived at the age of employment. The following facts illustrate the urgency of this issue:

1. Autism is more common than childhood cancer, juvenile diabetes, and pediatric AIDS combined.  
Central Texas is home to an estimated 34,800 individuals with autism.
4. Job prospects for adults with autism are rare. Nationwide, their combined unemployment and underemployment rate is around 90%.

The ultimate goal of The Arc of the Arts Technology Education Project is digital inclusion for citizens with developmental disabilities, through:

- Job Skills Training
- Basic Computing Skills Training,
- Exploration of Creative Self-Expression Through Animation, Filmmaking, Photography, and Digital Design.

The initial phase of the project (months 1-6) will be dedicated to staffing the project, researching the issues and developing the curriculum for the project. The second phase of the project will be dedicated to recruiting students and providing at least one 32-hour session (16, 2-hr classes) to approximately 50 student – 2 hours per week. Students will be assessed at recruitment to determine eligibility for the class and to measure their knowledge and skills. Students will be assessed at the end of the 16-week session to identify and quantify gained skills and capacities, satisfaction with the program and how the program might be improved. If additional funding is acquired in the interim (we are actively seeking), we will continue and expand the project.

The anticipated annual impacts of the Arc of the Arts Technology Education Project are as follows:

- A Technology Education Project and curriculum focused on creative multimedia job skills developed for individuals with developmental disabilities
- Increased access for individuals with developmental disabilities
- 35-40 citizens with developmental disabilities will participate
- Each participant will receive at a minimum of 32 hours of Technology Education training, over a 16- week training period (2 hours per week)
- 80% of clients completing at least 16 hours of training will demonstrate a 50% increase in their technology skills

In addition, we believe The Technology Education Project will change the lives of participants, our organization, and the community by:

1. Bringing the world of the internet to a typically isolated segment of the community,
2. Providing training to assist our clients to access and use helpful information,
3. Helping clients gain skills that can enhance their employability,
4. Providing a creative and occupational opportunities for clients,
5. Enhancing our organizational catalogue of services,
6. Expanding our organizational influence and outreach,
7. Providing services to an underserved segment of the community, and
8. Helping a highly unemployed segment of our community become more employable, therefore adding to the commerce of the community.

The Arc Technology Education Project is based on a model that was developed and established on the SMU Plano, TX campus, and which provides technology skills training nonPareil, <http://www.npitx.org/>. However, The Arc's additional focus on developing creative multimedia skills is particularly unique. We will continue to work closely with the nonPareil organization in Plano – hopefully developing a formal collaboration – but in the interim as an advisor.

We are also optimistic and excited about the possibilities of connecting the Technology Education Project to research being conducted locally by Southwest Educational Development Laboratory (SEDL). Arc of the Capital Area Board Member, Frank McCamant, serves on the National Advisory Panel of SEDL, and is also Presiding Officer of the Texas Council on Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders.

Other collaborative partners for this project include the following:

- Best Single Source +,
- The Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Coalition, and
- The Arc of Texas and The Arc (of the United States)

We will also continue to work closely with corporate supporters, Junior League, The University of Texas School of Special Education Department, Austin Independent School District, and The City of Austin.

- 10. The City of Austin requires an annual report explaining how selected organizations and the community they serve benefit from Google Fiber. If selected, how will your organization**

**measure the impact Google Fiber has on those served by your organization? Describe evaluation methods, goals, and objectives.) 1000 words maximum**

The Arc will work with Interns from the UT School of Communication to utilize the most current methods of evaluation. This partnership will allow for an academically rigorous evaluation while teaching the next generation the value of digital inclusion for citizens with developmental disabilities. Our preliminary assessment of outputs and impact that could be measured to assess the achievement of the project's goals are included above. We anticipate that these measurements will be refined as we further engage involvement of the University of Texas.

The Arc will also measure the impact of Google Fiber on our general organizational operations:

Fiscally - By avoiding the monthly Internet service and connection cost, The Arc can turn those resources into direct service or new equipment. This measurement is easily quantifiable.

Client Services - Less time processing paperwork and data online will result in more time for direct communication with clients. Although less easily quantifiable, we could measure this impact through subjective staff surveys.

### **Community**

**1. Briefly describe how Google Fiber will enhance public participation in your organization's service. 1000 words maximum**

At a very basic level, Google Fiber will improve the publics' experience on The Arc website and The Arc of the Arts blog, thereby increasing the public's participation in our services.

At the program level, Google Fiber will:

- Significantly increase the speed at which our employees can do their jobs processing information for clients,
- Significantly increase the quality of our clients experience working through the Arc of the Arts Technology Education curriculum, and
- Significantly increase opportunities for citizens with developmental disabilities to connect with the larger world through the Internet.

**2. Briefly describe how your organization promotes digital inclusion. 1000 words maximum**

As previously mentioned, over the past five years, The Arc has been building an exceptional occupational arts program for citizens with developmental disabilities. Based upon that experience, we believe that some of our students, particularly those with autism, if trained would be able to acquire jobs in the strong Austin high-tech market. As such, The Arc of the Arts Technology Education Project was created to provide student-centered creative technology training, including graphic design, filmmaking, animation, illustrating, retail sales skills, as well as basic computer and Internet literacy.

In addition, providing a computer lab and basic technology instruction for our clients with developmental disabilities will provide digital inclusion to a population of citizens historically isolated by their disability.

It is with these needs and opportunities in mind that The Arc request support in the form of Google Fiber, to assist us in piloting a technology education program for citizens with developmental disabilities, to develop a curriculum and assessment tool, and to document, package and market the model for state and nationwide replication.

**3. Will bringing Google Fiber to your organization help the underserved? Please explain. 1000 words maximum**

Yes, the community of citizens with developmental disabilities is terribly underserved. Not only is Texas ranked nearly last among states in services and resources provided in support of children and adults with developmental disabilities, but the process for applying and qualifying for, and receiving state and federal services, is onerous and the benefits so limited that less than 50% of Texas families with a child with developmental disabilities and adults with developmental disabilities receive any type of government support. In fact, 31% of individuals on the wait-list for State of Texas services have been waiting for more than five years. Persons signing up today will wait an average of nine years for services.

That is why services provided by The Arc are so very important to Austin families and adults struggling with developmental disabilities, to attain and maintain a quality of life. In many cases, The Arc is their only source of support and services, and without which they might be forced into government facilities, which have been shown through studies to be both inhumane and dangerous.

**4. How much of your community will benefit from the Google Fiber connection? 1000 words maximum**

We anticipate that the following segments of The Arc community will benefit from Google Fiber annually:

- 35-40 students with developmental disabilities participating in the Arc of the Arts Technology Education Project
- 300-500 individuals using the computer lab
- 300-450 of their parents/caregivers
- 34 employees of The Arc
- Employers who engage students who have participated in the training

**5. Briefly describe how your organization will offer a new community service as a result of the Google Fiber connection. 1000 words maximum**

The Arc of the Arts Technology Education Project computer lab would allow us to have multiple levels of new programming. The first would be the Digital Arts Media classes. The second would be to provide the tools, and a location and system of support not readily available to the developmentally disabled population. For example, similar to public library programs that provide computer access to citizens without disabilities, The Arc would institute computer lab hours for citizens with developmental disabilities.

*Harry, was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder at age 3.*

*One day, Harry peered over my shoulder while I was working in Illustrator. I showed him a few basic concepts, then left him to play around in the program. Thirty minutes later, Harry had drawn Thomas the Tank Engine, a cartoon he loved, using the program's more sophisticated features. He had figured out how to use the pen tool and apply colors and gradients, things I had not shown him.*

*In our digital world, he will be able to contribute content and make connections for the rest of his life.*

Harry's dad

**Because The Arc's new facility, for which we are requesting Google Fiber support, will be shared with two other organizations serving the target audience, the Autism Society of Central Texas, and the Down Syndrome Association of Central Texas, there will be terrific opportunities for clients of all three of these organizations. We are also exploring a collaboration at our new site with Easter Seals of Central Texas.**

Organizationally, Google Fiber would make it possible for The Arc to remotely connect and provide face-to-face support to clients with restricted communications and/or mobility, and to families whose mobility is also constrained.

### **Innovation**

- 1. Please describe the potential innovative applications that could be developed with a gigabit connection. 1000 words maximum**

Google Fiber would enable The Arc to dramatically enhance real-time learning, which is of particular value for a program targeted at students with autism, who may have difficulty focusing. The time lag of our current process inhibits our ability to turn experience, practice and evaluation around in a timeframe that is conducive to the needs and abilities of clients who may otherwise have exceptional potential.

The gigabit connection of Google Fiber would also enable The Arc to adopt voice and video conferencing for day-to-day business, and more importantly, for client contact.

- 2. Does your organization have or foresee high bandwidth applications? 1000 words maximum**

Yes, we are very committed to the Technology Education Project because of the demonstrated need and potential. We are also certain that taking this path will present other opportunities for serving the needs of our clients and increasing their potential for their quality of life. The Technology Education Project will include literacy and an understanding of the Internet, lessons on how to use digital art programs to create artwork as well as video editing. A higher bandwidth would allow the clients to expand the audience for their works by decreasing upload times of high quality images and videos that we have now been using for several months.

- 3. Briefly describe how your organization is interested in advancing your technology. 1000 words maximum**

The Arc of the Arts Technology Education Project is an innovative approach to job skills training for people on the autism spectrum. It would open a door for a whole group of people that have not been previously considered as capable of work in the field of Digital Arts Media. Currently, The Arc's upload times are at a significant disadvantage when storing data on a shared drive for employees to access. This results in uploads slowing down the employees work and involve planning around each employee's schedule so as to not interfere with other data processes. With the addition of Google Fiber, it is

extremely exciting what this model could mean not just for the world of citizens with developmental disabilities, but also for the world of digital arts.

In addition, with Google Fiber, we could limit the amount of on hand software. With a gigabit connection, all software can be direct download at 682 times the speed as we are currently downloading. This would allow us to use mountable ISO files instead of actual discs.

**4. Does your organization have the capacity and resources to advance your technologies? Please explain. 1000 words maximum**

Yes. We have worked with local businesses to improve our technology with either donations, or low cost equipment. We purchased a brand new server and switch at the end of 2011. Our server and PC's are capable of handling the Google Fiber connection.

**Practical Pragmatic**

**1. Will the connection help your organization financially? How? 1000 words maximum**

Yes, Google Fiber will enable The Arc to:

- More effectively achieve our mission
- Avoid the cost of internet connection
- Increase revenue from classes offered to the target audience
- Increase organizational efficiency
- Enhance our capacity to market art created by our Arc of the Arts students
- Enhance our Arc of Arc Technology Training Classes
- Enhance our clients online experience with The Arc's website and blog
- Enhanced potential for creating and increasing public, private and nonprofit partnerships and community support
- Increase The Arc's potential for leveraging resources from other sources such as contracts for Supported Employment from the State of Texas Department of Rehabilitative Services.

**2. Will this be the organization's primary or secondary connection? 1000 words maximum**

If chosen to receive the Google Fiber, this will become our primary connection.

**3. Does your organization have (or will it have) equipment necessary to connect? 1000 words maximum**

Yes, we have the necessary equipment, and we are always planning for, and seeking funding for increasing our technology assets and potential.

**4. Does your organization currently have access to a high bandwidth connection? 1000 words maximum**

Yes, but it is slow, unreliable and expensive. It often leads to projects such as film editing taking several hours of employee time to complete, often outside of class time. This is something that would change with the addition of Google Fiber. The project could now be done in real time with the clients learning from the instructor.

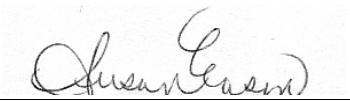
**The Arc of the Capital Area is the recognized “go to” organization in Austin for citizens with developmental disabilities and their parents/caregivers. Google Fiber for 10 years to The Arc will be an extremely meaningful gift to one of this community’s most deserving population. Thank you for coming to Austin, and for making this amazing offer to the glue that holds our community together – citizens organized to help those less fortunate.**



**Applicant's Statement**

I certify that answers given herein are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that false or misleading information given in my application will result in disqualification. I understand and agree that I am required to abide by City of Austin ordinances, policies and rules.

I understand if selected to receive a Google Fiber connection that the organization I represent may be required to: ✓ submit an annual report to the TARA Office explaining how the organization has benefited from the free service.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
September 30, 2013  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Eason, Executive Director  
**Title**

Please submit this form to TARA by 4:45 p.m. on Friday, September 30, 2013.

Email: [digital.inclusion@austintexas.gov](mailto:digital.inclusion@austintexas.gov)

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